

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name: that I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter claimed and for which a patent is sought in the application entitled:

OPEN AND CLOSE MECHANISM FOR RECORDING MEDIUM INSERTION PATH

which application is:

the attached application
(for original application)

application Serial No. _____

filed _____, and amended on _____

(for declaration not accompanying application)

that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification of the above-identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the patentability of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, that I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119, §172 or §365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified on said list any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

| Application Number | Country | Filing Date | Priority Claimed (yes or no) |
|--------------------|---------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 10001-55160 | Japan | Feb. 28, 2001 | yes |

I hereby claim the benefit of Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in a listed prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge my duty to disclose any information material to the patentability of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| Application Serial No. | Filing Date | Status (patented, pending, abandoned) |
|------------------------|-------------|--|
| | | |

I hereby appoint John H. Mion, Reg. No. 18,879; Donald E. Zinn, Reg. No. 19,046; Thomas J. Macpeak, Reg. No. 19,292; Robert J. Seas, Jr., Reg. No. 21,092; Darryl Mexic, Reg. No. 23,063; Robert V. Sloan, Reg. No. 22,775; Peter D. Olexy, Reg. No. 24,513; J. Frank Osha, Reg. No. 24,625; Waddell A. Biggart, Reg. No. 24,861; Robert G. McMorrow, Reg. No. 19,093; Louis Gubinsky, Reg. No. 24,835; Neil B. Siegel, Reg. No. 25,200; David J. Cushing, Reg. No. 28,703; John R. Inge, Reg. No. 26,916; Joseph J. Ruch, Jr., Reg. No. 26,577; Sheldon I. Landsman, Reg. No. 25,430; Richard C. Turner, Reg. No. 29,710; Howard L. Bernstein, Reg. No. 25,665; Alan J. Kasper, Reg. No. 25,426; Kenneth J. Burchfiel, Reg. No. 31,333; Gordon Kit, Reg. No. 30,764; Susan J. Mack, Reg. No. 30,951; Frank L. Bernstein, Reg. No. 31,484; Mark Boland, Reg. No. 32,197; William H. Mandir, Reg. No. 32,156; Scott M. Daniels, Reg. No. 32,562; Brian W. Hannon, Reg. No. 32,778 and Abraham J. Rosner, Reg. No. 33,276, my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and request that all correspondence about the application be addressed to **SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS**, 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037-3202.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date January 10, 2002

First Inventor KOJI SUGITA

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

Residence Saitama, Japan

Signature Koiji Sugita

Citizenship Japanese

Post Office Address c/o Pioneer Corporation, Kawagoe
Kojo, 25-1, Aza Nishimachi, Yamada,
Kawagoe-shi, Saitama 350-0822, Japan

Date January 10, 2002

Residence Saitama, Japan

Citizenship Japanese

Second Inventor MASAKAZU SAWAHATA
First Name MASAKAZU Middle Initial S Last Name SAWAHATA

Signature Masakazu Sawahata

Post Office Address c/o Pioneer Corporation, Kawagoe
Kojo, 25-1, Aza Nishimachi, Yamada,
Kawagoe-shi, Saitama 350-0822, Japan

Date _____

Third Inventor _____
First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Residence _____

Signature _____

Post Office Address _____

Citizenship _____

Fourth Inventor _____
First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Signature _____

Post Office Address _____

Citizenship _____

Fifth Inventor _____
First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Signature _____

Post Office Address _____

Citizenship _____

Sixth Inventor _____
First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Signature _____

Post Office Address _____

Citizenship _____

Seventh Inventor _____
First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Signature _____

Post Office Address _____

Citizenship _____